(d) the total amount proposed to be spent on construction of rail routes in Sikkim State during the said Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Taking up work of new lines is an ongoing process based on justification and demands as per criteria prescribed by National Transport Policy Committee (1980). No Plan has been finalized separately for the Eleventh Five Year Plan.

(c) and (d) It is proposed to complete 2,000 kms of new lines out of ongoing new line projects during the Eleventh Five Year Plan period. No project is sanctioned in Sikkim State However, a proposal for new line from Sivok to Rangpo (52.70 kms) at an estimated cost of about Rs. 1300 crore has been processed and sent to Planning Commission for 'in principle' approval. The work would be taken up as and when requisite clearances are obtained from the competent authority.

**Public-private investment in modernisation of Railways in Tamil Nadu**

1695. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Railways alongwith private sector have planned to invest in the railway modernisation besides other projects during Eleventh Plan period;

(b) if so, the concrete programme of action plan prepared by the Railways;

(c) the amount likely to be invested for the projects in Tamil Nadu;

(d) whether all pending proposals of the State of Tamil Nadu would be undertaken; and

(e) if so, the time by when the amount in respect of Tamil Nadu likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The projected requirement of funds for investment in Railways plan for Eleventh Five Year Plan including investment through Public-Private Partnership is Rs. 2,51,000 Crores.

(b) The areas which have been identified for possible execution through Public-Private Partnership include commercial development of land, development of passenger/freight terminals, container services, loco and wagon manufacturing, logiestics parks and budget hotels.

(c) Taking into account new projects proposed in Budget 2008-09, the projects in Tamil Nadu entail about Rs. 6500 Crores for completion.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Sanctioned projects are being progressed as per availability of resources and funds allocated in the Budget.

**Promotion of Punjabi language in Railways**

1696. SHRI TARLOCHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the languages being used on all railways platform on all railways stations located in Haryana;